WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A dough treatment facility (1), comprising

- a dough feeder (2);
- a dough metering arrangement (5, 22 to 27), which comprises
  -- at least one delivery piston (5) which presses fed-in dough into at least one metering chamber (23),
  -- at least one drive mechanism (6 to 21) for the delivery piston (5);
- a dough kneading arrangement (37);
- a transfer arrangement (36) which transfers a metered dough piece (35) from the dough metering arrangement (5, 23 to 27) to the dough kneading arrangement (37): and
- a dough discharge arrangement (60);

wherein at least one drive component (11) of the drive mechanism (6 to 21) for the delivery piston (5) comprises a load sensing device (13) which is disposed for measuring the load by which the delivery piston (5), when pressing the dough, acts on the dough.

2. A dough treatment facility according to claim 1, wherein the load sensing device (13) comprises at least one wire strain gauge.

3. A dough treatment facility according to claim 1, wherein the load sensing device (13) is a load cell arranged between two drive members (10, 14) of the drive mechanism (6 to 21).

4. A dough treatment facility according to claim 3, wherein the load sensing device (13) is disposed in a tubular casing (17) between two rod sections (10, 14) of a drive rod (11), in particular a connecting rod.

5. A dough treatment facility according to claim 1, comprising a control unit (16), which is connected to the load sensing device (13) and to the drive mechanism (6 to 21) and which is designed such that the drive (21) of the delivery piston (5), when pressing into the metering chambers (23), is stopped as soon as a pressure that is sensed by the load sensing device (13) exceeds a pre-set pressure limit.

6. A dough treatment facility according to claim 5, wherein the control unit (16) comprises a data memory for a plurality of load limits.